

## Winter Driving

### TIPS BEFORE YOU DRIVE

- \* Keep your vehicle's gas tank at least half full at all times.
- \* Make sure windshield fluid is full.
- \* Winterize your car by fully charging the battery and checking tire air pressure.
- \* Use deicer or heat your key with a match or lighter to open frozen locks--DO NOT use water, even if it is hot.
- \* Keep emergency driving supplies such as ice scrapers, snow brushes, blankets, shovels, jumper cables, flares, sand, extra clothing, deicer, matches, candles, flashlights, cell phone, water and non-perishable food in your vehicle.
- \* Listen to weather reports before heading out.

### TIPS WHILE ON THE ROAD

- \* Remember bridges and ramps freeze before roads.
- \* If your vehicle gets stuck, ease or "rock" out of spaces. Spinning the tires only digs a car deeper in the snow. If your vehicle won't budge after rocking it, try to seek help or use your cell phone.
- \* Keep a safe distance of 50 feet from snow removal equipment and the car in front of you. It takes longer to stop on wet or icy roads.
- \* When skidding, steer your vehicle in the direction you want to go—DO NOT slam on the brakes.
- \* SLOW DOWN!!!

## Snow Operations Information

To better serve the citizens of Cincinnati, the Department of Public Services has a number of ways that you can get up-to-date information on winter operations:

- \* Call the 24-hour Customer Service Center Snow Hotline at 591-SNOW
- \* Visit the City's Website: [www.cincinnati-oh.gov](http://www.cincinnati-oh.gov)
- \* View CitiCable: Channel 23



City of Cincinnati  
801 Plum St.  
Cincinnati, OH 45202  
513.591.6000  
website: [www.cincinnati-oh.gov](http://www.cincinnati-oh.gov)



### City of Cincinnati Snow Brochure

Check your local news or visit  
[www.cincinnati-oh.gov](http://www.cincinnati-oh.gov) for  
snow emergency updates .



City of Cincinnati  
Department of Public Services

Customer Service  
Tel. (513) 591-6000

Charlie Luken, Mayor

#### Members of Council

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John Cranley  
David Crowley  
Pat DeWine  
Sam Malone  
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Valerie Lemmie,  
City Manager

## Message from the Director

Dear Community Member:

Addressing our city streets during the winter season is the primary focus of the City of Cincinnati's Department of Public Services from November to March, but we need your help to make this winter as safe and hassle free as possible.

This brochure is designed to give you some of the tools to help you navigate the streets and better manage the winter weather in Cincinnati. You'll find information regarding:

- \* Hamilton County Weather Alerts
- \* Details of road treatment procedures
- \* Driving tips and alert levels
- \* Roadway conditions
- \* Locations for up-to-date information

We ask for your patience as we treat both primary and residential streets, so we can help the greatest number of citizens.

Please remember to remain patient and drive carefully for a safe winter!

- Daryl B. Brock, Director  
Department of Public Services



## Weather Alert Levels

When a snow event occurs, the City of Cincinnati follows the Snow Emergency levels determined by the Hamilton County Sheriff's Office. The Hamilton County Sheriff's Office recognizes the following snow emergency levels:

### Level One Alert

Highways and roadways are hazardous with blowing and drifting snow. Roads are icy and drivers should proceed very cautiously.

### Level Two Alert

Highways and roadways are hazardous with blowing and drifting snow or icy conditions exist. Only those individuals who feel it is necessary to drive should be out on the highways or roadways. Contact your employer to see if you should report to work.

### Level Three Alert

All highways and roadways are closed to non-emergency personnel. No one should be out during these conditions unless it is absolutely necessary, i.e., hospital personnel, etc. This restriction also applies to public transportation.

**THOSE TRAVELING ON CLOSED HIGHWAYS AND ROADWAYS ARE SUBJECT TO ARREST.**



## Road Treatment Procedures & Conditions

The City's primary routes are cleared at the same time as residential streets to improve the safety and travel conditions for the greatest number of people. Primary routes include some hills, bridges, main thoroughfares, and the City's downtown business district.

Winter Operations procedures are developed using a number of factors including the amount and consistency of the snow or ice; the outside temperature before, during and after a storm; and the projected duration of a particular storm.

The City will issue a parking snow emergency to assist with snow removal efforts. Citizens who live on designated snow emergency routes, as well as non-designated residential routes should adhere to the City's parking restrictions during severe snow events. Those in violation are subject to having their vehicles ticketed and towed.

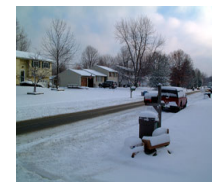
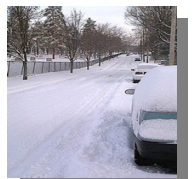
The following road conditions may assist you when navigating City streets:

### Snow Covered Street

Street is covered with snow, which makes driving difficult and streets often impassable.

### Treated Street

Street is able to be driven through, but not necessarily plowed.



### Passable Street

If necessary, snow will be plowed to the sides of the street during heavy snows. This may leave ridges of snow on the sides of streets.